

NCJ

NORTH COAST JOURNAL OF POLITICS, PEOPLE & ART

Humboldt County, CA | FREE
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Vol. XXXVI Issue 52
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THROUGH MARK LARSON'S LENS

- 5 Farewell to Hurd's
- 16 Holiday romantasy

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NCJ CONTENTS

- 4 Mailbox
- 4 Poem
Walk
- 5 News
More Than a Place to Buy a Tree
- 8 On The Cover
Through Mark Larson's Lens
- 13 On the Table
What's Good: Birria Brunch
- 14 Setlist
Bah, Humbug
- 16 Seriously
Hallmark Christmas-Romantasy
Movie Pitches
- 18 Nightlife
Live Entertainment Grid
- 25 Calendar
- 23 Screens
Solo at the Mic
- 25 Field Notes
Superstar
- 26 Sudoku & Crossword
- 26 Workshops & Classes
- 30 Classifieds



Birria ramen to cure what ails you.
Read more on page 13.

Photo by Holly Harvey

ON THE COVER

The No Kings protest at the Humboldt
County Courthouse.

Photo by Mark Larson

NCJ

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NCJ MAILBOX

Thank you to the Eureka Mayor and Council

Editor:

I want to thank our mayor and council for greatly improved bike lanes, and for desperately needed new housing atop old asphalt lots. IMO, these are the very best local government initiatives since at least 2011, when I

Fred Krissman, Eureka

'Climate Indifference'

Editor:

The last editions of the *North Coast Journal* (NCJ) capture the contradictions in Humboldt County when it comes to climate change.

Readers who are paying attention to environmental politics will note the contrast between the awareness of climate change articulated in Jen Savage's excellent article about sea level rise in the Dec. 11 edition of the NCJ and the absolute lack of engagement by the outlet on the recent approval by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors of the Humboldt Regional Climate Action Plan (HRCAP).

It is a journalistic parallel of the climate whiplash of extreme weather. One week the NCJ will publish a searing piece like Ms. Savage's article, emphasizing the hard realities of a changing climate, but then the next week the outlet will not even mention in passing the approval of a "climate plan," much less ask the fundamental question of whether the so-called "climate plan" succeeds in accurately defining the problem and providing an adequate road map for response.

Walk

I stopped to see the moon
Sneaking through the day
I watched a file of pelicans
Patrol the breakers through the spray
I spied a beached sea lion in the sand
As two prospecting ravens pecked their prey
While from the hills rang antiphonal psalmody
Performed by rapt coyote choirs, far away.

—Ellen Taylor

The NCJ is not the only party indifferent to this "climate plan" that was years in the making. Even other jurisdictions, such as the city of Arcata, that are involved in the HRCAP made no effort to participate in the hearing for approval of the "climate plan."

No wonder decision makers and environmental stakeholders have ignored the evidence presented by the organization I work for, Biofuelwatch, describing how the reliance of this "climate plan" on burning a deforestation driving biofuel product marketed as "renewable diesel" in the place of petroleum-based diesel is a false solution that contemporary science shows is making the global climate and biodiversity crisis worse.

This climate indifference in Humboldt County is a case study in the political complacency that allows environmental harms to continue.

Gary Graham Hughes, Redway

Write a Letter!

Please make your letter no more than 300 words and include your full name, place of residence and phone number (we won't print your number). Send it to letters@northcoastjournal.com. The deadline to have a letter considered for the upcoming edition is 10 a.m. Monday. ●

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Guests and friends of Ben Hurd gather under the front porch to socialize and hide from the rain. Photo by Griffin Mancuso

More Than a Place to Buy a Tree

Humboldt's community bids farewell to Ben Hurd's Christmas Tree Farm

By Griffin Mancuso

Dan Woods was in charge of stoking the fireplace at Ben Hurd's Christmas Tree Farm this year, which everyone huddled around on the house's back porch while keeping out of the rain last weekend. Some guests tried to keep their hands warm by clutching cups of homemade cider. A group of children ran past a giant wooden candy cane marked with foot measurements, weaving through the sea of pine trees sprawled across the property.

Each person who braved the weather in search of the perfect Christmas tree was greeted warmly and provided a list of questions by Woods.

"Where are you from?" Woods asked.

Any answer within Humboldt County was not sufficient.

"No, really, where are you from?" he pressed.

Every guest had a unique story of how they found themselves living in or visiting Humboldt. Some were dropping by the farm for the first time, while others were there as part of long-standing family traditions. Woods started with the same question that Hurd, who passed away in June at 93, had for every guest during his decades-long role as host.

"He pretty much sat on this porch no matter what, because everybody was his friend. Everybody knew him. They came here because they'd been coming here," Woods said. "So, it's just a giant hole."

Remembering Ben

In honor of Hurd — a former CHP officer, a gunsmith, a bird lover, a vintage car enthusiast, and friend to many — a group of his friends decided to host a final season for his Christmas tree farm, which ran every weekend starting after Thanksgiving and ending on Dec. 21.

The farm sold around 400 trees every year, with this season seeing around 460 trees sold for \$50 each. This season's proceeds were donated to Hospice of Humboldt, which assisted with Hurd's care near the end of his life.

Steve Porter, a friend of Hurd's for the last 20 years, says that he and several of Ben's close friends — who he called "Ben's Bunch" — decided to host one more season before the property went on the market because they didn't think potential buyers would want to continue maintaining the farm. And, he said, Ben would have wanted the remaining trees to go as Christmas trees. They also wanted to give

Continued on page 7 »

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the community a chance to say goodbye to the farm and show their appreciation for Hospice of Humboldt.

"I think that he would look back at all of us and just be happy that we didn't just board the place up and put a closed sign on it and a for sale sign on the property and all that," Porter said. "That is not the way he would want it done. I hope it's done with a little bit more love and compassion than that. It's kind of our call to order."

Hurd's farm, founded in 1978, stood out not only as a traditional outing for many families but also as a way for people to form connections. Porter cited Hurd's decision to start the farm from his love of Christmas and its ability to bring people together.

"He took care of the trees like each one was special," Porter said. "He had a blight hit here five or six years ago, where the trees were lacking something and he was very worried about it. So he got out and really investigated, talked to all the tree specialists and brought them all back."

Hurd's missing presence was noticeable, especially to his friends. The hummingbird feeders that lined the roof of the porch were gone. His playtime piano, normally rolling through Christmas classics, was silent. Hurd himself no longer sat in his red rocking chair by the fire.

David Erquhart, a friend of Hurd who met through volunteering at the farm, said it was a labor of love for Hurd and that profit wasn't a priority. Maintaining a Christmas tree farm required daily maintenance, with a collective 5,000 trees being planted since the farm's creation.

"Once you do the yearly costs and everything else, it really didn't make money, but it was more of a passion for him just to be able to talk to folks and to enjoy their company," Erquhart said.

Hurd also left a significant impact on many guests' experiences. On a table next to a 75th birthday photo display for Hurd rested a red notebook labeled, "memories," where guests shared their appreciation for the farm and Hurd's hospitality.

"I got the pleasure to meet Ben last year, 2024, and he had a contagious smile and awesome convos. So sad he is gone. I love this place," Jordan Williams wrote.

"We loved getting our trees here. We had great conversation around the fire with cookies and cider," another note from the Van Dyke family read.

Memories at the Farm

Anna Peck, who lives next door to the farm after purchasing the property from Hurd in 2014, has been a regular attendee with her two children. She said she appreciated the support Hurd provided her

family and found living next to the farm enjoyable — after an adjustment period.

"We were laying in bed before [we had] kids and somebody was cutting down their Christmas tree, used to be kind of annoying for us because it was so early in the morning when people would come out for us pre-kids, but then they were singing *O Christmas Tree* while they cut down their Christmas tree. And that was pretty adorable. We said, 'Alright, we give in. This is sweet,'" Peck said.

Her son Orion, who is almost 4, has been enjoying his position on the farm as an "elf." He visited the farm every day it was open, wore a festive hat, helped guests find the right tree for their home and enjoyed the hayrides.

"If they can't find a good Christmas tree, I can show them where the best Christmas trees are. Also, if they want a small Christmas tree, a medium-sized one, or a big one, I can show them where they are," he said.

The End of an Era and Its Lasting Legacy

Erquhart believed that the unique social opportunities of the farm will be hard to find elsewhere, but that the friendships made there will last.

"I'm not sure if the social part of it will survive. If, physically, it doesn't stay here, I don't think it'll survive," Erquhart said. "The only thing that it will be is just the people that have gotten acquainted with each other or are friends now. They'll stay that way and continue to be that way."

Even though Hurd's property might no longer see crowds of people searching for a Christmas tree and drinking cider on the porch, Porter believes that remembering and creating traditions will preserve his goal of helping people connect with one another.

"The politics of our place may change, the religions of our places may change, but let's keep these traditions," Porter says. "Let's hold tight to some of these special moments."

As the sun set on Sunday and the farm closed, Ben's Bunch had one last meal in his honor.

"He loved apple pie and ice cream," Woods said. "So we're having an apple pie and ice cream and root beer floats Sunday night, shutting the lights out, and good-bye." ●

Griffin Mancuso (he/him) is a freelance journalist based in Eureka. He is passionate about uplifting the stories of local communities and wildlife education and preservation. More of his work can be found at griffinmancuso.wordpress.com.

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Sarah McKinney in Papaya Lounge: Supernatural(s) as Velvet Q. Jones, the host with big hair and an even bigger singing voice, at Dell'Arte's Carlo Theatre in January.

THROUGH MARK LARSON'S LENS

By Jennifer Fumiko Cahill

Photographs by Mark Larson

The end of the year always feels like a mad scramble here at the *Journal*. It's one reason we're grateful to have Mark Larson's annual archive to share with readers and to fathom the timeline of the past 365 days for ourselves. As a photographer (and a human), his eye is drawn to boisterous community gatherings and quiet moments in the natural world, to whimsy and drama. Here is a sample of his chronicling of our county in its plays, protests and people.

Grab a beverage and play the full slideshow at northcoastjournal.com for a look back. It always makes us a little more hopeful looking forward.



Topher Reynolds organized Humboldt Marble Weekend for glass marble artists and collectors in Eureka in February.



Artist Emily Cook created this game mat with Bigfoot wearing Pedro's hat for the inaugural Magic in the Redwoods tournament in Arcata in March.

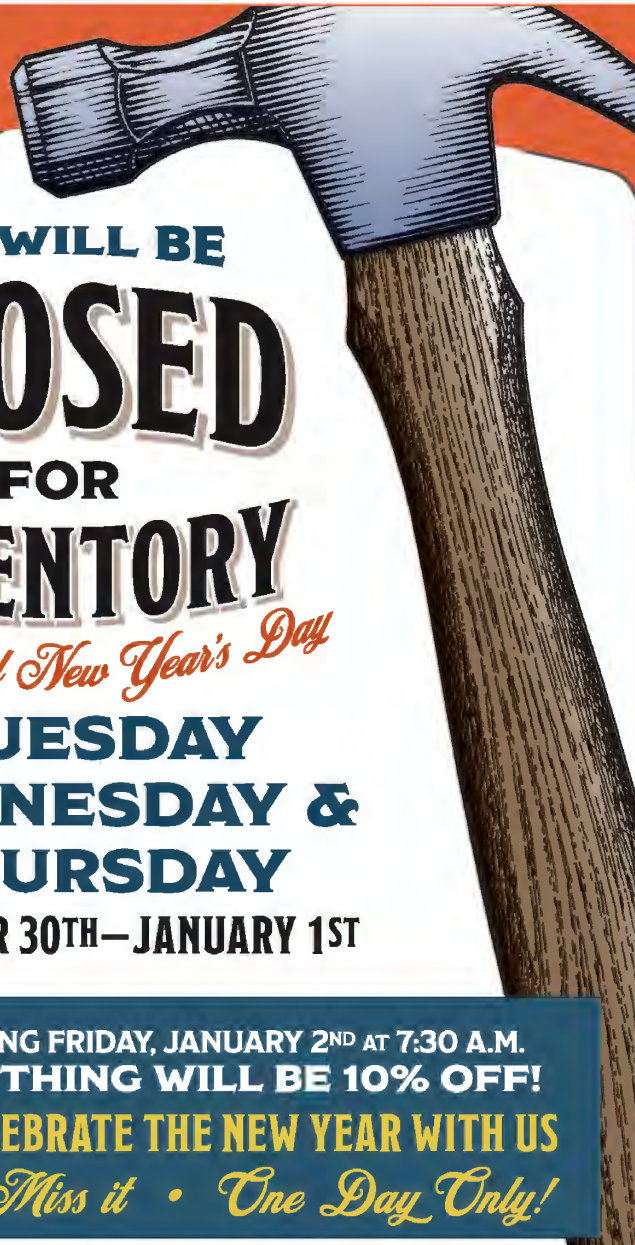


Access Humboldt's executive director Christina Marie Jeffers presents the Ray of Sunshine award to Thadeus Greenson, then co-editor of the North Coast Journal, at the Sunshine Week Illuminate 2025 event highlighting independent media in March.



Written and directed by Michael Fields, *Logger Legends*, *Liars* and *Lookers* featured Cynthia Martels, Lily Rich, David Powell, Alex Blouin, William English III, Zera Starchild, Wilda Thompson, Shawn Wagner, Jeff Landen and Biscuit the bar dog as attendees at a raucous family reunion in March and November.

Continued on next page »



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These Star Wars characters (Tyler Murray and Ivette Mendoz, of San Francisco) were among the early invaders of the Forest Moon Festival event at the Sequoia Park Zoo and Redwood Sky Walk in May.



In May, during a lion dance performance at the Chinatown Street Festival in Old Town, children presented lettuce for the lions to “eat” and “spit out” at the audience.



Handmaids lined the sidewalk at the anti-Trump administration No Kings protest in Eureka in June that drew an estimated 3,000 people.



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These Rutabaga Royalty Hobby Kinetic Kreature Race participants at the Humboldt County Fair in August (from left, Robert Adams, Monica Topping-Adams, Yavanna Reynolds, Nikki Lokks, Christina Swingdler, Lucas Thornton, Raelina Krikston and Wendy Burns) ran on the track instead of real horses this year.



Cyclists with butterfly wings took the the Kaleidoscope Crossing Bridge over the Eureka Slough on the recently opened section of the Humboldt Bay Trail in August as part of Sanctuary Day.



A member of the Riata Ranch Cowboy Girls displayed athletic horsemanship at the Fortuna Rodeo in July.



Soloist Wilda Thompson performs with the tie-dyed Redwood Interfaith Gospel Choir at the North Country Fair in September.



Mushroom Fair poster designer Charlie Wheat (at right in her *Clathrus ruber* mushroom helmet) also made the the *Porpolomopsis calyptriformis* mushroom hat worn by Ashlie Pitchform (at left) at the November event.



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Creamy, tangy green chilaquiles at Taco Loco.
Photo by Holly Harvey

What's Good: Birria Brunch

By Jennifer Fumiko Cahill
jennifer@northcoastjournal.com

The siren call of Taco Loco's (955 Main St., Fortuna) cushy, thick, handmade tortillas is nearly impossible to resist but sometimes lashing yourself to the mast and sailing on to a couple new items on the menu pays off.

Not that there's a wrong time for chilaquiles, as excellent for breakfast as they are for a midnight snack, but these make a fine brunch order (\$12.99). The milder green sauce balances the vegetal tartness of tomatillos and heat from fried green chiles with the addition of crema, blended smooth. The homemade tortilla chips simmered in the sauce are chewy-tender, topped with queso fresca and eggs (order them sunny-side up and they arrive with creamy yolks and frizzled brown edges).

The Crazy Birria Ramen, as it's announced on a flier by the register, should cure anyone coming off the brutal cold traveling around, or at least make you care a little less (\$11.99 with no meat,

\$13.99 with meat, \$16.99 with extra meat). The noodles are the springy instant kind, happily absorbing the beef consomé, a rich, hours-long cooked broth, brick red and smoky with dried guajillo chiles. The stewed meat barely holds together and the fat is offset by a squeeze of lime, cilantro, jalapeño, raw white onion and a zig-zag of habanero salsa. Who knew this would be the ramen that won me over to cheese as a topping?

Once it's back on the menu, let owners Guadeloupe and Elisa Rodriguez talk you into a Mexican hot chocolate, not the café version but a spiced champurrado thickened with masa. Take it to go and it'll stay hot a good long time and warm you back up when you need it. ●

Share your tips about What's Good with Jennifer Fumiko Cahill (she/her), managing editor at the Journal. Reach her at (707) 442-1400 ext. 106 or jennifer@northcoastjournal.com. Follow her on Bluesky and Instagram @JFumikoCahill.

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f i

NCJ SETLIST

Bah, Humbug

By Collin Yeo

setlist@northcoastjournal.com

Until very recently, I considered using this space to write about the future, Christmas and otherwise, as a means of suggesting through gentle encouragement how we might collectively find a path through the detritus of the present. But now I find myself working remotely from the wrong side of some flooded roads, and what little cheesy insight I might have had about that noise is washed away. The future is here anyway, and most advice anyone could offer to offset its catastrophes boils down to communal planning, so — massive fart sound and sky-sized jerk-off motion — that's obviously a nonstarter. We have always had those options but largely ignored them because we operate out of the sort of idiotically short-term and blind self-interest that gets people like Ted Cruz and Rex Bohn elected with healthy margins time and again.

This is a time for rational and devastating pessimism in the land of Schopenhauer's hedgehog, a sad creature who must balance the desire to find company and warmth among his den-mates with the prickly pain of snuggling up to the vicious bristles of his own kind. That's American society. We are such world-historically massive assholes that our only sense of community comes from our ability to create enough cruel infrastructure to tolerate the pungent stench of our fundamental, rotten and flatulent selfishness. If you find yourself angry at me for admitting this, just remind yourself who the fucking president is and how the idiots who lost to that criminal did so because the pain of disavowing a genocide and banning Bill "Lolita Express platinum club member" Clinton from the DNC was a greater horror to bear than acknowledging the basic humanity of Arab and Muslim people in swing states.

Happy New Year, may we all clean up our act, but don't hold your breath. It's a better strategy to get used to the smell.

Christmas

Ho, ho, ho. Now move along, citizen. Nothing to see here.

Friday

Dance off some of the holiday blues, booze and boo boos over at the Basement tonight, where at 9 p.m. the majestic **DJ Kreepeeo** is hosting a bounce takeover featuring cuts from every direction including techno, Eurodance and top o' the pop hits. It's \$5 to get inside; everything else is up to you.

Saturday

Savage Henry Comedy Club owner **Chris Durant** presents his annual stand-up headlining show at 8 p.m. In addition to the aforementioned founder, you can enjoy the jolly breezes and wheezes from folks like **Josh Barnes**, **Madison Lopez**, **Brandy Lara** and more. Five bucks is a pretty good deal for all of this fun. However, if you want something cozier and cheaper, rewind the clock by an hour and go to catch the accordion and guitar duo **Squeezebug** at Cafe Mokka, where there is no cover charge to sit by the fire.

Sunday

Jeez, I don't know, it's the first Sunday after Christmas. What do you want from me? I got nothing. If I missed anything important, please write me a very concerned letter, cram it into your nearest time portal and send it back to when it might have mattered. Merry Christmas.

Monday

There's an important birthday to celebrate, and no, I'm not talking about my dear middle brother's nativity marker



yesterday. It's bandleader, tromboner, music master, clownish pro and all-around great guy **James Zeller's** birthday celebration at the Arcata Playhouse tonight at 7 p.m. Expect appearances from the roster of fantastic jazz musicians who have been entertaining the crowds here at the Playhouse in the wake of the Sanctuary's storm damage from last year, along with, I am sure, some excellent tunes. Tickets run a sliding scale \$10-\$30.

Tuesday

Seattle comedian **Quinn Fitzgerald** will be doing his thing at Siren's Song Tavern tonight. What is that thing? You can find out by showing up at 8 p.m. with \$5 fo' the do'.

New Year's Eve

In the spirit of an early celebration of the end of 2025, I'm going to suggest one show only. **Rooster McClintock** and **Banjo Makes Three** have something going down at the Carlo Theatre at 6 p.m., with a guaranteed landing long before the midnight end of this wretched fucking year. Sounds like a winner to me. You can pay \$20 at the door like a sucka MC, or you can seek out advance tickets at Dead Reckoning and the Logger Bar for \$15. Either way, there's a raffle and a bar along with the music, so Happy New Year, kiss my ass and I'll see you in '26. ●

Collin Yeo (he/him) is actually quite fun at parties if people are throwing a good one, which no one has since 1999.



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NCJ SERIOUSLY?



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Hallmark Christmas-Romantasy Movie Pitches

By Jennifer Fumiko Cahill
seriously@northcoastjournal.com

Good morning. I'll get right to it: The numbers are bad. We are losing our target audience of straight, white women in droves. Initially, we responded by dipping our toes into inclusivity: a couple of Ikea gays here, a light brown Santa there. But our crushing grip on the market from the first whiff of pumpkin spice through New Year's is still slipping. It's like whatever soul-selling bargain we struck to make holly and gingerbread cookies into American women's low-key secular but Christianity-adjacent kink has run out. Cheryl-Anne has been whining for months that we're losing market share to these "romantasy" books, like *A Court of Thorns and Roses*. But yesterday Ken

said the same thing in a much lower voice and it made sense.

Here are some of the movies my team and I are working on to make women who are horny for elves and fairies horny for the holidays again.

Many of these romantasy novels have fairy or elf heroes, but not like Tinkerbell/Keebler; they're more like elves in *Lord of the Rings* or fairies from scary Irish mythology — really just masculine beauty and power without, you know, men. So let's start with elves.

In *A Workshop of Toys and Candy*, big-city arctic researcher Sara gets lost in the North Pole, where she's rescued by hot toy-making elf Len. Unable to leave after trespassing into Santa's kingdom, she

becomes embroiled in the deadly political intrigue of the workshop. It hits all the romantasy beats: love, danger, otherworldly beings, graphic sex on a wooden rocking horse — you get it.

A Touch of Jolliness also takes place at the North Pole, but this time Greta, an ambitious journalist (who's more than she seems) is captured by the intense and despotic Nicholas. Will she escape their bargain or allow herself to be drawn into his red velvet embrace to become ... Mrs. Claus? Very dark romance, *Beauty and the Beast*. It's got daddy issues, light kidnapping and graphic sex with weird power dynamics on a sleigh.

How about adventure? Lotta romantasy features heroines on quests more dangerous than picking out the perfect Christmas tree. *Fourth Hoof* follows Tarah, a gifted magical reindeer-rider who is drafted onto Santa's team with her frequently shirtless archrival Sven. (Vikings test very high and we have a line on a Skarsgård second cousin.) *Fourth Hoof* has passion, horse-girl vibes, battles, competition and hate sex on a totally different sleigh.

Ladies also love magic. We've had the market cornered on holiday magic, but we need to blend it with fantasy enchantments. Slutty magic. I know what you're thinking: *Hot Frosty*. Sure, we could go back to that well and have a muscular snowman come to life as a boyish hunk for a woman to chastely mommy. But some of our viewers are making three meals a day for their families and working full time with little help. A grown man's childlike wonder and charming ineptitude isn't going to froth anybody's eggnog.

But what if a working woman's Christmas wish and a swirl of snowflakes yielded a competent boyfriend and some of that sweet, sweet unpaid labor? In *The Gingerbread Man*, big-city chef Kayla struggles to keep the small-town bakery she inherited from going under ... until she bakes a fantastic smelling gingerbread man who comes to life ripped and ready to bake. But what about the ethical implications of their burning attraction given that she's exploiting and sexualizing him as his creator? Kidding. They definitely have graphic sex in a cloud of flour.

Now let's talk horror, specifically monsters, which have lately been promoted to boyfriend material. We've seen the coffin-loads of cash vampires can bring in, and if the *Frankenstein* thirst and freefalling marriage rates have taught us anything, it's that living human men are a marketing failure. It sounds nuts but listen, if you're thinking your Tinder date might kill you, the leap to a monster with a skull face or fins

isn't that far. At least the swamp creature or whatever has never heard of podcasting.

The Yuletide has its roots in paganism and it's chock full of monsters just waiting for the dark romance treatment. Top of the list has to be Krampus. He's got horns, a provocatively long tongue and a mission to punish the naughty. In *Once Upon a*

Krampusnacht, CEO Brayla returns to her hometown for the annual festival and is snatched by the bad boy of honor. Can she fix him? Does she even want to? Oh, it's definitely toxic but that's what it takes to make some of our audience feel alive these days. They might have run screaming a decade ago, but in 2026 it's gonna be,

"Throw me in your sack and drag me to hell, Daddy." ●

Jennifer Fumiko Cahill (she/her) is the managing editor at the Journal. Reach her at (707) 442-1400 ext. 106 or jennifer@northcoastjournal.com. Follow her on Bluesky and Instagram @JFumikoCahill.



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NCS CALENDAR

Nightlife

Got a gig or an event? Submit it to calendar@northcoastjournal.com by 5pm Thursday the week before publication. Tickets for shows highlighted in **yellow** are available at NorthCoastTickets.com. More details at northcoastjournal.com. Shows, times and pricing subject to change by the venue.

VENUE	THURS 12/25	FRI 12/26	SAT 12/27	SUN 12/28	M-T-W 12/29-12/31
ARCATA THEATRE LOUNGE 1036 G St., Arcata (707) 822-1220				<i>Boogie Nights</i> (1997) (film) 5-8:45 p.m. \$8, \$12 w/poster	
THE BASEMENT 780 Seventh St., Arcata (707) 845-2309		Bounce! w/DJ Kreepeo (EuroDance, Top 40, techno) 9 p.m. \$5			[W] New Years Eve Decades Party w/DJs Anya Slayer and Zero One 8:30 p.m. \$10
BEAR RIVER CASINO RESORT 11 Bear Paws Way, Loleta (707) 733-9644		Thirsty Bear: Music Video Mashup 9 p.m. Free	Thirsty Bear: Country Lightning Band (country covers) 9 p.m. Free		[W] '80s and '90s New Year's Eve (DJ Statik) 9:30 p.m. Free
BLUE LAKE CASINO WAVE LOUNGE 777 Casino Way, Blue Lake (707) 668-9770		Wave: Latin Night with DJ Pachanguero 9 p.m. Free	Wave: Good Enuff (rock & roll) 9 p.m. Free		[M] Wave: Treat Yourself Karaoke 9 p.m. Free, [W] Sapphire: NYE Party - Dueling Pianos 8:30 p.m., Wave: New Year's Eve Party with The Undercovers 9 p.m. Free
CAFE MOKKA 495 J St., Arcata (707) 822-2228			Squeezebug (accordion & guitar duo) 7-10 p.m. Free		
CENTRAL STATION SPORTS BAR 1631 Central Ave., McKinleyville (707) 839-2013		Treat Yourself Entertainment Karaoke 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Free			[M] Pool Tournament 6 p.m.
DELL'ARTE 131 H St., Blue Lake (707) 668-5663					[W] Rooster McClintock, A Banjo Makes 3 - Early Bird NYE Black Jeans Gala 6-9:30 p.m. \$20, \$15 advance
FROTH 420 California Ave., Arcata (707) 630-3269					[M] Paranormal Open Mic Night 8 p.m. Free, [T] Open Mic 6-9 p.m. Free, [W] Karaoke Night 7-10 p.m. Free
THE HEIGHTS CASINO FIREWATER LOUNGE 27 Scenic Drive, Trinidad (707) 677-3611					[T] Karaoke 8 p.m. Free, [W] Dr. Squid (dance hits) 8 p.m. Free
THE HISTORIC EAGLE HOUSE 139 Second St., Eureka (707) 444-3344			Latin Dance Night 7-9:30 p.m. Free		[T] Blues Fusion Dance 7-9 p.m. \$5- \$15, no one turned away, [W] Once Upon a Midnight Hour New Years Eve Party 9 p.m.-3 a.m. \$40-\$65
HUMBOLDT BREWS 856 10th St., Arcata (707) 826-2739					[W] Magnificent Sanctuary Band, Free Limitless Energy 8:30 p.m. \$22, \$15
HUMBOLDT GRANGE 5845 Humboldt Hill Rd., Eureka (707) 442-4890					[W] The Future Starts Tonight- An All Ages NYE Party 6-10 p.m. \$8-\$10
KAPTAIN'S QUARTERS 517 F St., Eureka (707) 798-1273		The Blues Amigos 7 p.m. Free	Sarah Torres (singer/songwriter) 8:30 p.m. Free		[W] New Year's Eve Party w/DJs Immolate, Apparition 8 p.m. Free
THE LOGGER BAR 510 Railroad Ave., Blue Lake (707) 668-5000		Jazz Bros 4-6 p.m., DJ Deaf Eye 9-11 p.m.	Turtle Goodwater 9-11 p.m.		[W] NYE Karaoke 8 p.m.
MINIPLEX 401 I St., Arcata (707) 630-5000				Karaoke 8 p.m. two-drink minimum	[W] New Year's Eve Karaoke Party 8 p.m.



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Calendar

Dec. 25, 2025 – Jan. 1, 2026



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Break out the bell bottoms and dance into the New Year at the **New Year's Eve Ball at Redwood Raks World Dance Studio** on **Wednesday, Dec. 31**, from **6 p.m. to midnight** (\$15, \$20/family). This all-ages, alcohol-free celebration invites revelers to dress in '70s style and enjoy multiple dance floors featuring swing, Latin, blues fusion, West Coast swing and more. A beginner-friendly lesson begins at 8 p.m., followed by dancing, snacks, crafts, photo ops and balloon drops at 9 p.m. and midnight.



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If 2025 overstayed its welcome, you're not alone. Send it off properly at the **Once Upon a Midnight Hour New Year's Eve** blowout at the **Eagle House** on **Wednesday, Dec. 31** from **8 p.m. to 3 a.m.** (\$40–\$65). Presented by Fraktal and Burningleaf Productions, the fantasy fairytale-themed New Year's Eve ball features DJ sets by Sacha Robotti, Ben Annand, Marjo Lak, Smurf, Luna Assassin, Devstep, Cassidy Blaze, RunDat and LSB. Also on tap: burlesque, balloon drops, immersive visuals, lasers, a tea lounge and a VIP area. Costumes encouraged.



Rooster McClintock. Submitted

For those who prefer honky-tonk over high heels, kick off New Year's Eve early at the **Early Bird NYE Black Jeans Gala** on **Wednesday, Dec. 31**, at **Dell'Arte International** (\$20, \$15 advance). Doors open at **6 p.m.**, with live music from **7 to 9:30 p.m.** by Rooster McClintock and A Banjo Makes Three, ringing in the New Year on East Coast time. Wear your fanciest jeans, enjoy a full bar, raffle prizes and plenty of dancing. All ages.

25 Thursday

ART

Figure Drawing at Synopsis. 7-9 p.m. Synopsis Collective, 1675 Union St., Eureka. With a live model. Bring your own art supplies. Call to contact Clint. \$5. synopsisperformance.com. (707) 362-9392.

OUTDOORS

Annual Christmas Walk at the Arcata Marsh. 10-11:30 a.m. Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary Interpretive Center, 569 S. G St. Join leader Paul Wilson and Friends of the Arcata Marsh for a 1.5- to 2-hour, rain-or-shine leg-stretcher. Meet out front. (The building will be closed if no volunteer is found to staff between 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.) Free. info@arcatamarshfriends.org. (707) 826-2359.

26 Friday

ART

Life Drawing Sessions. 10 a.m.-noon. Redwood Art Association Gallery, 603 F St., Eureka. Hosted by Joyce Jonté. \$10, cash or Venmo.

FOR KIDS

Kid's Night at the Museum. 5:30-8 p.m. Redwood Discovery Museum, 612 G St., Eureka. Drop off your 3.5-12 year old for interactive exhibits, science experiments, crafts and games, exploring the planetarium, playing in the water table or jumping into the soft blocks. \$17-\$20. info@discovery-museum.org. discovery-museum.org/classesprograms.html. (707) 443-9694.

Weekly Preschool Story Time. Eureka Library, 1313 Third St. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in the children's room. For children 2 to 6 years old with their caregivers. Other family members are welcome to join in the fun. Free. manthony@co.humboldt.ca.us. humlib.org. (707) 269-1910.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Winter Fair Ice Skating Rink. 2026. Belotti Hall, 1250 Fifth St., Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Ferndale. See Dec. 25 listing.

Zoo Lights. 5-8 p.m. Sequoia Park Zoo, 3414 W St., Eureka. See Dec. 25 listing.

MEETINGS

Lost Coast Steamers Mixer. Fourth Friday of every month, 5-7 p.m. Phatsy Kline's Parlor Lounge, 139 Second St., Eureka. Monthly mixer for steampunk enthusiasts to gather. Every fourth Friday of the month brought to you by the Lost Coast Steamers Steampunk Consortium. Free. events@historiceaglehouse.com. historiceaglehouse.com. (707) 444-3344.

Tarot Salon with Pop Culture Healing. Fourth Friday of every month, 5:30-8 p.m. The Historic Eagle House, 139 Second St., Eureka. Join Geneva Elise every fourth Friday for a community tarot event for readers of all levels. Snacks in Phatsy Kline's then head to the Bayview dining room and practice reading. Bring your deck and a journal. Light refreshments provided. \$20-\$25. events@historiceaglehouse.com. popculturehealing.com/tarot-salon. (707) 444-3344.

ETC

Public Skate. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Fortuna Skating Rink, Rohner Park. Roll over to the Fireman's Pavilion in Rohner Park. Public Skate sessions may close early if there is no one in attendance. \$5.50 ages 6 and older, \$3.50 ages 5 and younger, bring skates for a \$0.50 off (rules online), \$2 non-skater minor. friendlyfortuna.com/departments/parks_recreation.

27 Saturday

FOOD

Arcata Farmers Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Arcata Plaza, Ninth and G streets. Year round, offering fresh produce, meat, fish, cheese, eggs, bread, flowers and more. Live music and hot food vendors. No pets, but trained, ADA-certified, service animals welcome. CalFresh EBT

customers receive a market match at every farmers market. info@northcoastgrowersassociation.org. northcoastgrowersassociation.org. (707) 441-9999.

Music and Makers - McKinleyville Location. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Eureka Natural Foods, McKinleyville, 2165 Central Ave. Live music, samples/demos, pint specials. Free. marketing@eurekanaturalfoods.com.

Music and Makers - Eureka Location. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Eureka Natural Foods, 1450 Broadway. Live music, samples/demos, pint specials. Free. marketing@eureka-naturalfoods.com. eurekanaturalfoods.com.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

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Zoo Lights. 5-8 p.m. Sequoia Park Zoo, 3414 W St., Eureka. See Dec. 25 listing.

OUTDOORS

FOAM Marsh Tour. 2 p.m. Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary Interpretive Center, 569 S. G St. Meet leader Barbara Reisman in the lobby for a 90-minute, rain-or-shine walk that will focus on plants. Free. (707) 826-2359.

Plant ID for Beginners. Reduce the Green Blur 1: Connecting to Plants. 1-2 p.m. Sequoia Park, 3414 W St., Eureka. Meet at the fountain at T and Glatt. Learn how to identify local native plants. Bonus: Participants will receive a free Zoo/Zoo Lights pass. Free. jkerns56@gmail.com.

SPORTS

Fortuna Recreational Volleyball. 10 a.m.-noon. Fortuna High School, 379 12th St. Ages 45 and up. Call Dolly. In the Girls Gym. (707) 725-3709.

ETC

Adult Skate Night. Last Saturday of every month, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Fortuna Skating Rink, Rohner Park. Ages 18 and older only. IDs checked at door. Alcohol and drug-free event. \$5.50 includes skate rental.

The Bike Library. 12-4 p.m. The Bike Library, 1286 L St., Arcata. Hands-on repair lessons and general maintenance, used bicycles and parts for sale. Donations of parts and bicycles gladly accepted. arcatabikelibrary@riseup.net.

Public Skate. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Fortuna Skating Rink, Rohner Park. See Dec. 26 listing.

Thursday-Friday-Saturday Canteen. 3-9 p.m. Redwood Empire VFW Post 1872, 1018 H St., Eureka. Enjoy a cold beverage in the canteen with comrades. Play pool or darts. If you're a veteran, this place is for you. Free. PearceHansen999@outlook.com. (707) 443-5331.

28 Sunday

MOVIES

Boogie Nights (1997). 5-8:45 p.m. Arcata Theatre Lounge, 1036 G St. Pre-show 5 p.m. Movie at 6 p.m. Director Paul Thomas Anderson drama about an idealistic porn producer who discovers a hot young talent. \$8, \$12 w/poster. info@arcatatheatre.com. facebook.com/events/1537138520807217. (707) 613-3030.

MUSIC

Sweet Harmony. 4-5:30 p.m. United Methodist Church of the Joyful Healer, 1944 Central Ave., McKinleyville. Women singing four-part harmony a capella. Now welcoming new members with all levels of experience. (707) 845-1959.

FOOD

Food Not Bombs. 4 p.m. Arcata Plaza, Ninth and G streets. Hot food for everyone. Mostly vegan and organic and always delicious. Free.

GARDEN

Volunteer Workday. 10 a.m.-noon. Trinidad Museum, 400 Janis Court. Help maintain the native plant garden located behind the museum and library. Serious rain cancels.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Winter Fair Ice Skating Rink. 2026. Belotti Hall, 1250 Fifth St., Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Ferndale. See Dec. 25 listing.

Zoo Lights. 5-8 p.m. Sequoia Park Zoo, 3414 W St., Eureka. See Dec. 25 listing.

OUTDOORS

Nature Journaling at the Arcata Marsh. Last Sunday of every month, 10 a.m. Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary Interpretive Center, 569 S. G St. No pre-registration required but sessions are limited to the first 10 people. All ages welcome, if they can concentrate quietly for an extended period. Heavy rain cancels. Clipboards and colored pencils provided; bring notebook, journal or other paper and a writing implement. Wear weather-appropriate clothing. info@arcatamarshfriends.org. (707) 826-2359.

ETC

Public Skate. 1:30-4:30 p.m. Fortuna Skating Rink, Rohner Park. See Dec. 26 listing.

29 Monday

ART

Life Drawing Sessions. 6-8 p.m. Redwood Art Association Gallery, 603 F St., Eureka. See Dec. 26 listing.

Continued on next page »

FOOD

Harvest Box Deliveries. Multi-farm-style CSA boxes with a variety of seasonal fruits and veggies, all GMO-free and grown locally. Serving Eureka, Arcata, McKinleyville, Trinidad and Blue Lake. \$25/box, \$13 for EBT customers. northcoastgrowersassociation.org/harvestbox.html.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Winter Fair Ice Skating Rink. 2026. Belotti Hall, 1250 Fifth St., Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Ferndale. See Dec. 25 listing.

Zoo Lights. 5-8 p.m. Sequoia Park Zoo, 3414 W St., Eureka. See Dec. 25 listing.

ETC

Homesharing Info Session. 9:30-10 a.m. and 1-1:30 p.m. This informational Zoom session will go over the steps and safeguards of Area 1 Agency on Aging's

matching process and the different types of homeshare partnerships. Email for the link. Free. homeshare@alaa.org. (707) 442-3763.

30 Tuesday

BOOKS

Story Time. Last Tuesday of every month, noon. Trinidad Library, 380 Janis Court. Stop by Trinidad Library for story time with Kim. A special time just for young children with their caregivers and families.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Winter Fair Ice Skating Rink. 2026. Belotti Hall, 1250 Fifth St., Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Ferndale. See Dec. 25 listing.

Zoo Lights. 5-8 p.m. Sequoia Park Zoo, 3414 W St., Eureka. See Dec. 25 listing.

MEETINGS

Humboldt Cribbage Club Tournament. 6:15-9 p.m. Moose Lodge, 4328 Campton Road, Eureka. Weekly six-game cribbage tournament for experienced players. Inexperienced players may watch, learn and play on the side. Moose dinner available at 5:30 p.m. \$3-\$8. 31for14@gmail.com. (707) 599-4605.

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31 Wednesday

EVENTS

Unity Day. Last Wednesday of every month, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Free Dining Facility, 35 W Third St., Eureka. Local agencies provide information to assist people with getting needed resources heading into the holiday season. Free. sparrish@eurekaca.gov. svdp-redwoods.org/. (707) 613-0192.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

'80s and '90s New Year's Eve. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Bear River Casino Resort, 11 Bear Paws Way, Loleta. Groove to nostalgic tunes and dance the night away. Free. bearrivercasino.com.

New Year's Eve Ball. 6 p.m.-midnight. Redwood Raks World Dance Studio, 824 L St., Arcata. This all-ages, no alcohol celebration features multiple dance floors with a mix of swing, Latin, blues fusion, West Coast swing and more. Beginner-friendly lesson at 8 p.m., social dancing throughout the night, balloon drops at 9 p.m. and midnight and photo ops. \$15-\$20. thomboz@yahoo.com. redwoodraks.com. (707) 502-4080.

New Year's Eve at Village Pub. 7-10 p.m. Village Pub, 400 Ocean Ave., Ferndale. Put on your best suit/dress (tuxes encouraged) and enjoy an evening of music and dancing with Noir, an appetizer buffet and a champagne toast (at midnight EST). Ages 21 and over. \$60.

NYE Party - Dueling Pianos. 9 p.m. Sapphire Palace, Blue Lake Casino, 777 Casino Way. An all-request, high-energy, interactive show play songs to sing along and dance to. Featuring Laura Wiley and David Mahokey. bluelakecasino.com/events/category/sapphire-palace/. (707) 668-9770.

Once Upon a Midnight Hour New Years Eve Party. 8 p.m.-3 a.m. The Historic Eagle House, 139 Second St., Eureka. Fraktal and Burningleaf Productions present an enchanted fantasy fairytale world featuring Sacha Robotti, Ben Annand, Marjo Lak, Smurf, Luna Assassin, Devstep, Cassidy Blaze, RunDat, LSB, a balloon drop, burlesque show, tea lounge, visuals, lasers and a VIP lounge. \$40-\$65.

Rooster McClintock - Early Bird NYE Black Jeans Gala. 6-9:30 p.m. Dell'Arte, 131 H St., Blue Lake. Wear your fanciest jeans and ring in the New Year on East Coast time with live music from Rooster McClintock and Banjo Makes Three. All ages. Full bar. Raffle prizes. \$20, \$15 advance. events@dellarte.com. dellarte.com/onstage-2/.



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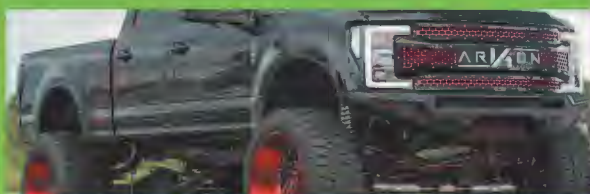
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Zoo Lights. 5-8 p.m. Sequoia Park Zoo, 3414 W St., Eureka. See Dec. 25 listing.

1 Thursday

ART

Figure Drawing at Synopsis. 7-9 p.m. Synopsis Collective, 1675 Union St., Eureka. See Dec. 25 listing.

Open Art Night. First Thursday of every month, 5-7 p.m. Gene Lucas Community Center, 3000 Newburg Ave., Fortuna. Bring your own project or work on a project provided. All ages. Free. jessyca@glccenter.org. glccenter.org/events. (707) 725-3330.

BOOKS

Storytellers and Writers Book Club for Tweens and Teens. First Thursday of every month, 4-5 p.m. Trinidad Library, 380 Janis Court. Tweens and teens share ideas on world building and books they've read or would like to write. In the Trinidad Room.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Winter Fair Ice Skating Rink. Belotti Hall, 1250 Fifth St., Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Ferndale. See Dec. 25 listing.

Zoo Lights. 5-8 p.m. Sequoia Park Zoo, 3414 W St., Eureka. See Dec. 25 listing. ●

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NCJ SCREENS

Solo at the Mic

Stand-up from Hoffman, Nanjiani and Chappelle

By John J. Bennett

screens@northcoastjournal.com

If we're not laughing, we're crying, right? Or, more often, both at the same time, in a rictal horror that may never be unmade; it is still 2025 after all. As much as I relish the grand collaboration of the movies, there is something immediate, undiluted and handmade about stand-up comedy that can satisfy the same — or at least a very similar — need. At its best, the medium creates a sense of intimacy, almost of conspiracy, that is more like music or literature than cinema, but its performative element brings it literally out of the darkness; no one is more exposed than a comic in the spotlight. (It occurs to me now that the shared laughter of a comedy show resonates more with me than the so-often soiled communal experience of the movie theater).

Anyway, stand-up isn't really cinema, try as some directors might to enliven the affair with camera moves and editing tricks. No, what we show up for is to watch a person tell stories (hopefully funny ones) to us. And, in that, comedy shares at least some of the fundamental stuff that can make movies so magical, that quiet channel of direct experience that can, at its best, give us a sense of connection and possibility. I've also long believed that stand-up, like hip-hop, has often been the overlooked source of some of the greatest wordsmithery in the English language, so that's another win.

To cut somewhere closer to the chase, I couldn't feature sitting through another *Avatar*, much less finding something to write about it; no disrespect to Cameron, et al. To my great relief, three significant stand-up specials all debuted within days of each other (all brought to us by conglomerates whose motives beyond profit and growth are questionable, at



Me three minutes after promising not to talk shit during a holiday dinner.

Robby Hoffman: Wake Up

best, but we take the good with the bad with the worse). They're from perspectives about as disparate as they get in the same language and without drifting into the lunatic fringe. And they signify a (mostly) apolitical broadside against the idiotic but widespread notion that "you can't say anything anymore."

Briefly: I've had a number of white men (of which I am one) suggest this notion, among other even more odious ones, to me in conversation. To which I have increasingly responded that they can say whatever they want, but they have finally had to prepare themselves for a response. And, in comedy, we're seeing the revolution of the call and of the response: Some of these jokes will offend, but we can learn something from our reactions.

ROBBY HOFFMAN: WAKE UP. One of 10 children born into a sometimes Hasidic Brooklyn family and now married to a *Bachelorette* alum, Robby Hoffman is not in the business of playing to anyone's expectations. She is, rather, a stand-up in the grand old style, a force to be reckoned with while she's stalking the stage.

Immediately disarming, with her boyfriend jeans, tight bun and vape pen, Hoffman could, to the uninitiated, create the appearance of a newbie, a hipster who probably thinks she's edgy. But then, oh, but then, she erupts into a perfectly timed fusillade of vulgarity and confession that is as hilarious as it is brazen.

In this, her second special, Hoffman performs a live dissection of contemporary culture as only she can, pitching her singular, merciless voice at socio-sexual dynamics and bathroom etiquette in equal measure. It's filthy, unfettered and often

breathlessly funny, but also a testament to the transformative power of the medium. In the spotlight, Hoffman is on offense, not defense; woe to those who would stand in the way. TVMA. 66M. NETFLIX.

KUMAIL NANJIANI: NIGHT

THOUGHTS. It's troubling to think how long I've been following Kumail Nanjiani (although I did take a bit of a break for the whole Marvel thing). This special reminded me that we saw him, as a surprise drop-in, working out material for his first special, in San Francisco too many years ago.

Even though I'm not a gamer or a comics nerd, I am a cat guy and a sensitive, and something about Nanjiani's unassuming presence, both on and off stage, has always worked for me. And this special, marking a return to stand-up after a decade away, is an apt reminder.

There isn't anything particularly ribald or controversial in the material here, but that's never been the guy's stock in trade. Rather, this is an hour of shared celebration and discomfort, a discussion of unhappiness in the face of success peppered with jokes about swimming pool trespassers and cat medicine. TVMA. 55M. HULU.

DAVE CHAPPELLE: THE UNSTOPPABLE ... Yes, I know, we are and should be conflicted. My wife, who remarked while watching Chappelle's remarks upon receiving the Mark Twain Prize in 2019, "He's a pretty special person, isn't he?" now piped up with a "Really?" when he, in this special, once again came back to the anti-trans material. She's not wrong, of course, but I think much of the outcry about what Chappelle has said from the stage has less to do with his personal bigotry and

Continued on next page »

Happy Holidays!



NCJ

NORTH COAST JOURNAL OF POLITICS, PEOPLE & ART

Jaqueline Langeland

NCJ SCREENS

Continued from previous page

punching down, and more to do with a segment of the audience wanting the man to be a spokesman for something, rather than an individual, which is a troubling perspective indeed.

Like Chappelle or not, it's inarguable that he is a titan, a master of the form who can make hours of prepared material seem completely unrehearsed and, in so doing, deliver some pretty profound messages. And make me laugh as hard as anybody. In *The Unstoppable*, recorded in front of an enormous crowd in his hometown of Washington D.C., Chappelle takes the wrecking ball to the whole world as only he can. And, as in all his recent recorded work, he creates a text that will bear further study, as salient a broadside about America in this moment as anyone can render. TVMA. 75M. NETFLIX. ●

John J. Bennett (he/him) is a movie nerd who loves a good car chase.

NOW PLAYING

AVATAR: FIRE AND ASH. Na'vi-on-Na'vi violence in the latest installment of James Cameron's sci-fi action franchise. PG13. 195M. BROADWAY, MINOR.

DAVID. Animated Old Testament tale about a shepherd who beans a giant with a rock. PG. 115M. BROADWAY.

ELLA MCCAY. Comedy-drama about a newly elected governor (Emma Mackey) with a complicated family. PG13. 115M. BROADWAY.

FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S 2. Sequel to the Chuck E. Cheese-esque animatronic horror. PG13. 104M. BROADWAY.

THE HOUSEMAID. Amanda Seyfried and Sydney Sweeney in a thriller about weird dynamics with the help. R. 131M. BROADWAY.

MARTY SUPREME. Timothée Chalamet plays a ping pong champ in the 1950s, when that kind of thing apparently got you laid. R. 150M. MINOR.

THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SEARCH FOR SQUAREPANTS. Your favorite boxy hero takes on the Flying Dutchman's ghost. PG. 96M. BROADWAY (3D).

WICKED: FOR GOOD. Elphaba and Glinda reunite from opposite sides of the yellow brick tracks to save Oz in the sequel. PG. 137M. BROADWAY, MINOR.

ZOOTPIA 2. Ginnifer Goodwin and Jason Bateman return to voice the rabbit and fox crimefighting duo in the animated comedy adventure. PG. 108M. BROADWAY, MINOR.

For showtimes, visit catheaters.com and minortheatre.com.



If it's all a myth, how do you explain these stars that appear magically every year at Christmastime in Eureka?

Photo by Barry Evans

Superstar

By Barry Evans

fieldnotes@northcoastjournal.com

This time of year, you'll no doubt be seeing commentaries about the Star of Bethlehem, many of which will explain away the "star" as a conjunction of two planets, or as a comet, or even as a bolide (very bright meteor). Looking over my past writing, I realize I've been guilty of this in this column ("Christmas Star – in Spring?" Dec. 24, 2009), making the case for two close planetary conjunctions.

The idea of the exercise is to explain away three verses in the Biblical gospel of Matthew, written in Greek (not Aramaic, the *lingua franca* of Judea) nearly 100 years after the events referred to in book two: "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east ... and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was."

That's a lot to explain away, and Biblical scholars, astronomers and astrologers have spent much ink on the effort. First was probably the Renaissance astronomer Johannes Kepler, who, in 1614, calculated that three conjunctions of Jupiter and Saturn occurred in 7 BC, although calling them conjunctions is a bit of a hyperbole — the closest they came was nearly a degree, or two moon-diameters, so nothing to get too excited about. Better were two later conjunctions of Venus and Jupiter. The first, on Aug. 12, 3 BC, was 1/5 of the diameter of the full moon apart. Then, on the following June 17, 2 BC, these two brightest of the planets came so close — less than a minute of arc apart (the full moon

subtends about 30 minutes), they would have almost appeared as one object. Such a "great conjunction" is rare; it happened in 2020 for the first time in 800 years.

If you want to get literal (ignoring the near certainty that King Herod died in 4 BC, putting Jesus' presumed birth somewhere between 6 and 4 BC), you could make a case for planetary conjunctions: The Magi first saw something special in the night sky in 3 BC and arrived in Judea a year later. Or was it a comet (none were recorded around then)? Or a nova (ditto)? Or should we just give up trying to shoe-horn the Biblical "star" tale (only recounted in Matthew) to fit astronomical data? Especially since the trope of "guiding stars" would have been familiar in those days. Aeneas, for instance, was guided by a star from the ruins of Troy to Italy, while a star led the Corinthian statesman (and killer of his despotic brother) Timoleon to Sicily.

Then there's Ignatius' *Letter to the Ephesians* which has this to say about Jesus' birth: "A star shone forth in heaven above all the other stars, the light of which was inexpressible, while its novelty struck men with astonishment. And all the rest of the stars, with the sun and moon, formed a chorus to this star, and its light was exceedingly great above them all ... when God appeared in human form." Ignatius, Patriarch of Antioch, was an early Christian writer and martyr, and is best known for seven (probably authentic) letters. His *Letter to the Ephesians* seems to have been written shortly before his martyrdom, around 100 AD, or perhaps as late as 140 AD. In any case, his account of a really, really bright star sure isn't referring to the comparatively tame star in Matthew's gospel.

I'll leave it up to the reader to untangle it all. ●

Barry Evans (he/him, barryevans9@yahoo.com, planethumboldt.substack.com) wishes you all a peaceful holiday season.

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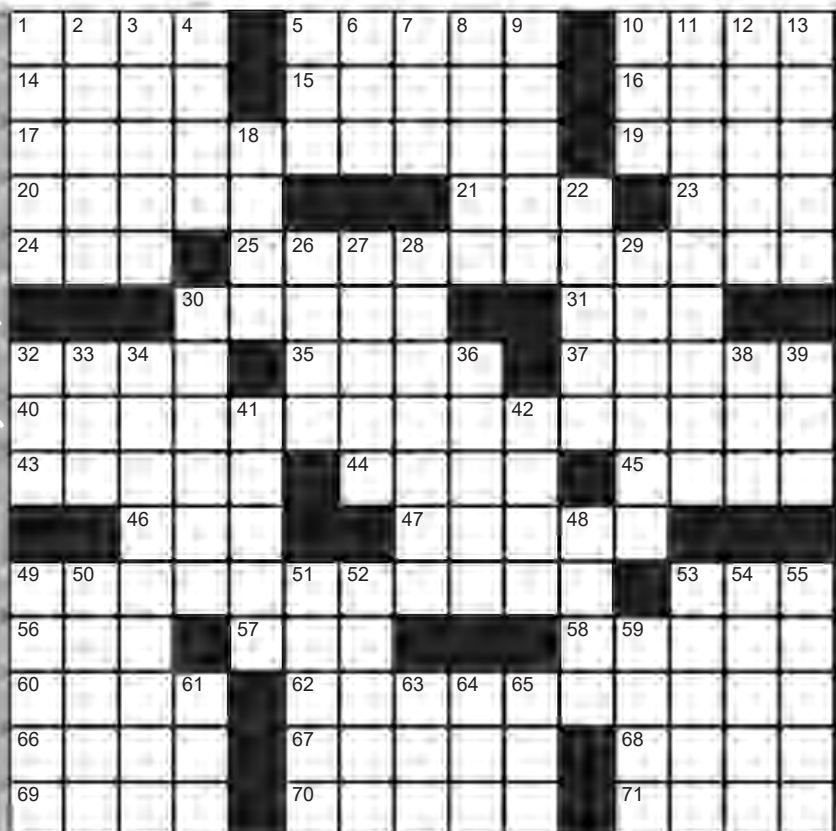
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THE OTHER WAY • ANSWERS NEXT WEEK!

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ACROSS

1. First, second, or reverse
5. Castle barriers
10. Muesli bits
14. European capital city formerly known as Christiania
15. "Star Wars" android
16. Burr/Hamilton showdown
17. Singer who complements the lead
19. Dame _____ Everage (Barry Humphries alter ego)
20. "The Road Not _____" (Robert Frost poem)
21. "Walk-_____ welcome"
23. Charged particle
24. "Affirmative"
25. Pre-employment screening
30. _____ Taco

(discontinued Good Humor-Breyers ice cream snack)

31. Blue Jays' prov.
32. Apollo 13 gp.
35. _____ bait (Oxford's Word of the Year 2025, referring to dubious online engagement tactics)
37. "Schitt's Creek" star Catherine
40. Available again, like a hot item
43. All confused
44. Coffee-brewing choice
45. Wine bottle sediment
46. Chewed stimulant familiar to Scrabble players
47. Right now
49. 1980s movie starring Michael J. Fox
53. Fedora, e.g.
56. Ovine opinion

57. Snub-nosed dog

58. Mesoamerican staple crop
60. Actress Miranda
62. "I Want It That Way" group
66. Santos of "Superstore"
67. British racetrack locale
68. Projection room spool
69. Buccaneer's refrain
70. Absolut competitor, informally
71. "Free Willy" creature

DOWN

1. "I _____ run!"
2. Written test format
3. Comparable
4. Dramatic part
5. Hawaiian _____ salad (noodle-based side dish)
6. Gold, in Guatemala
7. 4-wheel drive

transport

8. Debate subject
9. Noise
10. Keats poem
11. Cassette
12. High guy?
13. Urban Dictionary content
18. Ancient symbol of life, in 52-Down
22. "Gin & Juice" rapper, familiarly
26. Insulated electrical cable
27. Holiday greeting that doesn't include an envelope
28. "A Rake's Progress" painter William
29. Wicked
30. Lunged toward
32. "Don't share any information" contract, for short
33. Farm animal?
34. Pacific Northwest cryptozoology subject

36. "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats" poet

38. Corned beef bread
39. "Six-pack" muscles
41. Eagerly devour
42. Hairstyle that uses hairpins
48. "Look _____ now!"
49. Wood traditionally used in pianos
50. 3-to-1, for one
51. They're sometimes blown
52. Country straddling two continents
53. Employment manager
54. Worshipper of Quetzalcoatl
55. Inventor Nikola
59. Prefix for nautical
61. Tic-tac-toe win
63. Bear, also in Guatemala
64. NBA center Manute who was 7'7"
65. "Didn't need to hear that!"

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS ALL THE FREEMIX

H	A	S	H	T	A	G				I	P	A	S	S	
E	S	C	A	R	G	O	T			C	O	C	O	A	
M	W	A	H	A	H	A	H	A		H	M	A	R	T	
S	E	P		P	A	P	E	R		C	O	P	I	E	S
W	K	E	Y			E	L	T	O	R	O				
O	N	G	O	A	L		A	G	E		M	G	M		
R	O	O	M	I	E		S	U	X		S	O	O	T	
T	W	A		R	E	F		M	I	C		F	R	I	
H	I	T	S		P	A	C			S	C	A	R	E	M
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S	L	A	Y	S				K	T	H	X	B	Y	E	

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5		7	6				
			9		1		
					7	5	1
	9			2			4
7							
2	5		9	4	7		

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PUBLISHED NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND JUDICIAL FORFEITURE

On July 15th, 2025, the Humboldt County Drug Task Force seized property for forfeiture under Highway 101 @ Main Street in Fortuna, California, and 1466 Janes Rd, in Arcata, California in connection with controlled substance violations, to wit, Section 11351 of the Health and Safety Code of California. The seized property is described as: \$138,833.00 in U.S. Currency. Control Number 25-F-13 has been assigned to this case. Use this number to identify the property in any correspondence with the Office of the Humboldt County District Attorney.

12/25, 1/1, 1/8 (25-502)

PUBLISHED NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND JUDICIAL FORFEITURE

On November 13th, 2025, the Humboldt County Drug Task Force seized property for forfeiture under Blue Lake Blvd in Blue Lake, California in connection with controlled substance violations, to wit, Section 11378 of the Health and Safety Code of California. The seized property is described as: \$141,885.47 in U.S. Currency. Control Number 25-F-19 has been assigned to this case. Use this number to identify the property in any correspondence with the Office of the Humboldt County District Attorney. If your claim is not timely filed, the Humboldt County District Attorney will declare the property described in this notice to be forfeited to the State and it will be disposed of as

CITY OF FORTUNA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE FORTUNA CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, the Fortuna City Council will hold a public hearing and conduct a first reading of ordinances in the City Hall Council Chamber, at 621 11th Street, Fortuna, California, for the following purpose:

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER APN	STREET ADDRESS	CURRENT ZONING	PROPOSED ZONING
202-021-004	1098 FORTUNA BLVD	Heavy Industrial (M-2)	Commercial Thoroughfare with Emergency Shelter combining zone (C-T/ES)
202-021-012	No address assigned	Commercial Thoroughfare with Emergency Shelter combining zone (C-T/ES)	Public Facility with Emergency Shelter combining zone (PF/ES)
200-381-008 (I)	No address assigned	This land is not zoned.	Public Facility (PF)
200-363-008 (I)	No address assigned	This land is not zoned.	Public Facility (PF)
0202-021-008 (I)	No address assigned	This land is not zoned.	Public Facility (PF)
202-022-011 (I)	No address assigned	This land is not zoned.	Public Facility (PF)

(I) This is a strip of land and is a portion of the Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company right-of-way that is within the Mill District Specific Plan planning area. **Environmental Information:** On February 18, 2025, the City Council adopted Resolution 2025-03 certifying a Supplemental Environmental Impact (SEIR) prepared for the Mill District Specific Plan. The SEIR also analyzed the Zoning Map amendments for the seven parcels described in the table. Therefore,

provided in Health and Safety Code Section 11489.

12/25, 1/1, 1/8 (25-503)

PUBLISHED NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND NON-JUDICIAL FORFEITURE

On August 19th, 2025, Agents from the Humboldt County Drug Task Force seized property for forfeiture in connection with controlled substance violations, to wit, Section 11378 of the Health and Safety Code of California from Clam Beach Road, McKinleyville, California. The seized property is described as: \$3,000.00 in US currency and Control Number 25-F-14 has been assigned to this case. Use this number to identify the property in any correspondence with the Office of the Humboldt County District Attorney.

12/25, 1/1, 1/8 (25-504)

PUBLISHED NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND NON-JUDICIAL FORFEITURE

On May 14th, 2025, Agents from the Humboldt County Drug Task Force seized property for forfeiture in connection with controlled substance violations, to wit, Section 11351 of the Health and Safety Code of California from Bear Paws Way, Loleta, California. The seized property is described as: \$3,605.00 in US currency and Control Number 25-F-15 has been assigned to this case. Use this number to identify the property in any correspondence with the Office of the Humboldt County District Attorney.

12/25, 1/1, 1/8 (25-505)

Consider the Planning Commission's recommendation to the Fortuna City Council to adopt amendments to the Fortuna Zoning Map. The purpose of the amendments is to achieve consistency and implement the adopted Mill District Specific Plan, and ensure compliance with State law. The Planning Commission's recommended zoning text and map amendments are available on the City of Fortuna's website at https://www.friendlyfortuna.com/your_government/public_notices.php#outer-4, and a printed copy is available for review at the Community Development Department, located in City Hall, during regular business hours. **Project Description:** The table below identifies the parcels affected by the proposed changes to the Zoning Map, including their locations and the proposed zoning districts that are recommended:

PUBLISHED NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND NON-JUDICIAL FORFEITURE

On November 12th, 2025, Agents from the Humboldt County Drug Task Force seized property for forfeiture in connection with controlled substance violations, to wit, Section 11351 of the Health and Safety Code of California from 1552 Spear Avenue, 4936 Monterey Drive, Space #13, and 2010 Mad River Road, Arcata, California. The seized property is described as: \$11,862.00 in US currency and Control Number 25-F-18 has been assigned to this case. Use this number to identify the property in any correspondence with the Office of the Humboldt County District Attorney. If your claim is not timely filed, the Humboldt County District Attorney will declare the property described in this notice to be forfeited to the State and it will be disposed of as provided in Health and Safety Code Section 11489.

12/25, 1/1, 1/8 (25-506)

CITY OF FORTUNA NOTICE OF ADOPTION

Notice is hereby given that on December 15, 2025, the City Council of the City of Fortuna adopted the following ordinance: **ORDINANCE NO. 2025-779 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORTUNA TO AMEND FORTUNA MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 17, ZONING REGULATIONS, CHAPTERS 17.03, 17.06, AND 17.08 TO IMPLEMENT THE 6TH CYCLE HOUSING ELEMENT AND FIND THE AMENDMENTS TO**

[friendlyfortuna.com/your_government/public_notices.php#outer-4](https://www.friendlyfortuna.com/your_government/public_notices.php#outer-4), and a printed copy is available for review at the Community Development Department, located in City Hall, during regular business hours. **Project Description:** The table below identifies the parcels affected by the proposed changes to the Zoning Map, including their locations and the proposed zoning districts that are recommended:

BE EXEMPT FROM ADDITIONAL CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) REVIEW PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE AND CEQA GUIDELINES

SECOND READING PERFORMED AND ADOPTED on the 15th day of December 2025 by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Conley, Diaz, Stevens, Mayor Pro Tem Trent, Mayor Johnson
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
Copies of the full Ordinance are available for public inspection and review in the office of the City Clerk at 621 - 11th Street, Fortuna, California. This notice is given in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code of the State of California. This section allows a summary of the Ordinance to be printed. Buffy Gray, Deputy City Clerk
Posted: 12/16/2025

12/25 (25-499)

CITY OF FORTUNA NOTICE OF ADOPTION

Notice is hereby given that on December 15, 2025, the City Council of the City of Fortuna adopted the following ordinance: **ORDINANCE NO. 2025-780 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORTUNA TO AMEND FORTUNA MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 17, SECTION 17.02.030, ZONING MAP, TO ADOPT THE QUALIFIED COMBINING ZONE TO IMPLEMENT THE 6TH CYCLE HOUSING ELEMENT AND MILL DISTRICT SPECIFIC PLAN, AND FIND THE AMENDMENTS TO BE EXEMPT FROM ADDITIONAL CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) REVIEW PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE AND CEQA GUIDELINES**

SECOND READING PERFORMED AND ADOPTED on the 15th day of December 2025 by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members Conley, Diaz, Stevens, Mayor Pro Tem Trent, Mayor Johnson
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
Copies of the full Ordinance are available for public inspection and review in the office of the City Clerk at 621 - 11th Street, Fortuna, California. This notice is given in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code of the State of California. This section allows a summary of the Ordinance to be printed. Buffy Gray, Deputy City Clerk
Posted: 12/15/2025

12/25 (25-500)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FORTUNA PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Fortuna Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on January 13th, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall, 621 11th Street in Fortuna, California **To consider approval of a Lot Line Adjustment between Assessor Parcel Number 200-071-030 (Parcel 1) and Assessor Parcel Number 200-071-017 (Parcel 2),**

12/25 (25-507)

two neighboring parcels on Angle Heights Drive. Parcel 1 is currently 1.72 acres and is proposed to be reduced to 1.69 acres, while Parcel 2 is currently 0.88 acres and is proposed to be increased to 0.91 acres. A proposed variance request will also be considered in conjunction with the above Lot line Adjustment for Parcel 2, to allow a rear property line setback reduction from 25 to 5 feet. The proposed setback reduction will also accommodate the above lot-line adjustment between the two parcels. Parcel 2 has an existing structure, and Parcel 1 has site constraints. The variance will permit the continuation of the non-conforming setback for a garage expansion on the existing structure located at Parcel 2. Location APN: Parcel: 200-071-030 and Parcel 2: 200-017-017 Zoning: Residential Single Family (R-10; B-1); Applicant: Brice Luster. The meeting is scheduled to stream live on Access Humboldt. The staff report and draft resolutions will be available no later than 72 hours before the meeting on the City's website at www.friendlyfortuna.com under "Your Government" "Boards, Commissions & Committees" "Planning Commission" January 13, 2026 Regular Meeting. All interested persons are invited to appear at the time and place specified above to give oral or written testimony regarding this matter. Written comments may be forwarded to the Planning Commission Secretary at communitydevelopment@ci.fortuna.ca.us or 621 11th Street, Fortuna, California, 95540. The City of Fortuna does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities in its employment, services, benefits, facilities, programs, or activities. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (707) 725-7600. Requests should be submitted as far in advance as possible, but no later than two business days before the scheduled meeting.

12/25, 1/1 (25-508)

CITY OF FORTUNA REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

On-Call Consulting Services for the CITY OF FORTUNA
December 16, 2025
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ON-CALL CONSULTING SERVICES
QUALIFICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN **4:00 P.M., January 19, 2026**
Approved for release by December 16, 2025
Brian Issa, Public Work Director Date City of Fortuna
https://www.friendlyfortuna.com/your_government/public_notices.php

12/25, 1/1 (25-501)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 25-00616

The following person is doing Business as
Ampt Skate Shop
Humboldt
1040 H Street
Arcata, CA 95521
Russell R George
1040 H St
Arcata, CA 95521

The business is conducted by an Individual.
The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or name listed above on 11/26/25.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.
A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
/s/ Russell R George, Owner
This November 26, 2025
by SG, Deputy Clerk

12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 12/25 (25-486)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 25-00614

The following person is doing Business as
Breathe for Simon Vacation Rentals Humboldt
21 Shaw Ave
Ferndale, CA 95536
2135 B Street
Eureka, CA 95501
Todd D Mickalowski
21 Shaw Ave
Ferndale, CA 95536

The business is conducted by a married couple .
The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or name listed above on 11/15/25.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.
A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
/s/ Todd Mickalowski, Co-Owner
This November 20, 2025
by SG, Deputy Clerk

12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 12/25 (25-487)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 25-00597

The following person is doing Business as
Hustlin Threads
Humboldt
2730 Hubbard Lane
Eureka, CA 95501
Sara Bullock
2730 Hubbard Lane
Eureka, CA 95501
The business is conducted by an individual.
The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or name listed above on 11/12/25.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.
A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
/s/ Sara Bullock, Owner
This November 12, 2025
by SG, Deputy Clerk

12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 12/25 (25-488)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 25-00609

The following person is doing Business as
DHH Drafting
Humboldt
19631 Margaret Ln

Arcata, CA 95521
PO Box 134
Bayside, CA 95524
Daniel H Hertel
1931 Margaret Ln
Arcata, CA 95521
Kelsey D Hale
1931 Margaret Ln
Arcata, CA 95521
The business is conducted by a married couple.
The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or name listed above on n/a.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.
A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
/s/ Daniel Hertel, Owner/Co-partner
This November 18, 2025
by SG, Deputy Clerk

12/11, 12/18, 12/25, 1/1 (25-490)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 25-00635

The following person is doing Business as
CNC Construction
Humboldt
1901 Harrison Ave
Eureka, CA 95501
Alfredo Cadena
1901 Harrison Ave
Eureka, CA 95501
The business is conducted by an individual.
The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or name listed above on n/a.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.
A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
/s/ Alfredo Cadena, Owner
This December 8, 2025
by JR, Deputy Clerk

12/11, 12/18, 12/25, 1/1 (25-492)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 25-00611

The following person is doing Business as
Dry Farmed Medicinals
Humboldt
125 Shively Flat Rd
Shively, CA 95565
Organic Medicinals, Inc
CA 3859795
125 Shively Flat Rd
Shively, CA 95565
The business is conducted by a corporation.
The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or name listed above on 1/4/2016.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.
A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
/s/ Jill Vander Linden, CEO
This November 20, 2025
by TH, Deputy Clerk

12/11, 12/18, 12/25, 1/1 (25-493)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 25-00612

The following person is doing Business as
Alluvium
Humboldt
125 Shively Flat Rd
Shively, CA 95565
Dry Farmed Organic Medicinals, LLC
CA 201934710086
125 Shively Flat Rd
Shively, CA 95565
The business is conducted by a limited liability company.
The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or name listed above on 12/4/2019.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.
A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
/s/ Jill Vander Linden, CEO/President
This November 20, 2025
by TH, Deputy Clerk

12/11, 12/18, 12/25, 1/1 (25-494)

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT 25-00627

The following person is doing Business as
Soper Family Psychiatry Medical Group
Humboldt
1836 Central Avenue Suite A
McKinleyville, CA 95519
Soper Family Psychiatry Medical Group
CA 3791902
1836 Central Avenue Suite A
McKinleyville, CA 95519
The business is conducted by a corporation.
The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or name listed above on 11/24/2025.
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.
A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).
/s/ Robert E. Soper, MD, Chief Executive Officer
This December 3, 2025
by JC, Deputy Clerk

12/18, 12/25, 1/1, 1/8 (25-499)

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Elizabeth Bernice McEntire
CASE NO. CV2502590
SUPERIOR COURT
OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
825 FIFTH ST.
EUREKA, CA. 95501
PETITION OF: Elizabeth Bernice McEntire
for a decree changing names as follows:
Present name
Elizabeth Bernice McEntire
to Proposed Name
Ellie Fae McEntire
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change

of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: January 23, 2026

Time: 8:30 am, Dept. 4

For information on how to appear remotely for your hearing, please visit <https://www.humboldt.courts.ca.gov/>

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
825 FIFTH STREET
EUREKA, CA 95501
Date: December 5, 2025
Filed: December 5, 2025
/s/ Timothy A. Canning
Judge of the Superior Court
12/18, 12/25, 1/1, 1/8 (25-496)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF

Melvin McCornack

CASE NO. PR2500311

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Melvin McCornack

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Petitioner, David McCornack & Susan Martin

In the Superior Court of California, County of Humboldt. The petition for probate requests that David McCornack & Susan Martin be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. A HEARING on the petition will be held on January 8, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. at the Superior Court of California, County of Humboldt, 825 Fifth Street, Eureka, in Dept.: 4

For information on how to appear remotely for your hearing, please visit <https://www.humboldt.courts.ca.gov/>

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER:

Rory A. Hanson

305 K Street

Eureka, CA 95501

(707) 445-2011

Filed December 4, 2025

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

12/11, 12/18, 12/25 (25-491)

MEENDES MINI STORAGE ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, section 535 of the Penal Code and provisions of the Civil Code.

The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on the 3rd day of January 2026, at 10:00 am, on the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Mendes Mini Storage, 1133 Riverwalk Drive, Fortuna, California, County of Humboldt, State of California, the following:
Unit 463 Alexis Luna
Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is, where is and must be removed at time of sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.
Dated.

December 18, 2025

December 24, 2025

Mendes Mini Storage

1133 Riverwalk Dr.

Fortuna, California 95540

707-725-1300

12/18, 12/25 (25-497)

NOTICE

is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the

Penal Code and provisions of the Civil Code.

Property will be sold via an online auction at www.StorageAuctions.com. Auction bidding will begin at 10:00 AM on January 2nd, 2026 and will close at or after 1:00 PM on January 6th, 2026 at which time the auction will be completed and the high bidder will be determined. The property will be available for pick up where said property has been stored and which is located at Airport Road Storage, LLC, 500/1000 Airport Road Fortuna, CA 95540 County of Humboldt, State of California. (707) 725-1234

E39 JJ Bardin

D59 Kylie Bones

B181 Callie Buck

D4 Spring Darling

B148 Miriam Faith Holliman

B145 John Ireland

B175 Aicelynd Massey

D64 Karla Moreno-Silva

F99 Makayla Mullins

F10 Quynh Pham

B59 Daniel Scriver

Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of a settlement between owner and obligated party. Please refer to www.StorageAuctions.com for all other terms and conditions governing the bidding and auction process.

Dated this 15th day of December, 2025

12/18, 12/25 (25-498)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF

Jack Edward Sanford aka John Edward Sanford

CASE NO. PR2500249

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Jack Edward Sanford aka John Edward Sanford

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Petitioner, Kimberly Sanford In the Superior Court of California, County of Humboldt. The petition for probate requests that Kimberly Sanford be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain

very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on January 8, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. at the Superior Court of California, County of Humboldt, 825 Fifth Street, Eureka, in Dept.: 4

For information on how to appear remotely for your hearing, please visit <https://www.humboldt.courts.ca.gov/>

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER:

Jocelyn M. Godinho, Esq

317 3rd St, Suite 15

Eureka, CA 95501

Filed December 9, 2025

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

12/18, 12/25, 1/1 (25-495)



Michael Edward Miranda Sr. 1949 - 2025

We are saddened to share the passing of Michael Edward Miranda Sr. who died unexpectedly, at his home in Myrtle Point, Oregon on November 16, 2025.

He was the second of 12 children born to John and Joyce Miranda at Scotia Hospital on September 27, 1949. Most of his childhood was spent on the family Dairy in the Metropolitan area of Fortuna, California. This is where as a young child he learned to fish, hunt and work.

Mike, along with his brother John, knew when the work was done, it was time to head off to the river with their wooden boat and fish for salmon and steelhead. Over the years, he became a skilled fisherman, with the best kept secrets, and a following of friends always ready to join him.

Growing up as an older child in a large family, he learned the importance of work at an early age. This value carried with him throughout his life. As a young adult, he worked on the Joe Oliver Dairy. His next job was for Eel River sawmills, pulling green chain on the night shift. In 1972 he went to work at Challenge Creamery (which later became Humboldt Creamery). While working weekdays at the creamery, he spent afternoons and Sunday with his father working on the family dairy. Being the workaholic that he was, he found time to run the mobil butchering truck for Ferndale Meat Company. He retired from Humboldt Creamery after 30 years of employment. After retirement, he moved to Myrtle Point where he worked on his son's dairy for several years. When he decided to "take it easy" he and his wife, Lisa, built a meat cutting room and cold storage at his home,

where he did custom processing of wild game for many local hunters.

Mike attended kindergarten through fourth grade at Rio Dell elementary school and fifth through eighth grade at Fortuna elementary school. In 1961 the family moved to a larger Dairy on Waddington Road in Ferndale, California. He then attended Ferndale High School. He was a natural athlete excelling at baseball. He played Little League and Babe Ruth ball while living in Rio Dell and Fortuna. As an adult, he played softball on the Ferndale Palace team. He was a lifetime fan of the San Francisco Giants and the San Francisco 49ers.

In 1970 Mike married Margaret Brown and together they had three children, Michael II, Mark and Rebecca. After 30 years of marriage, they parted ways. In 2003 he married Lisa A. Mann and they later moved to Myrtle Point, where they purchased property and created a beautiful home and garden.

Mike is proceeded in death by his parents John and Joyce Miranda, two infant brothers, sister and brother-in-law, Mary Ann and Emil Feierabend, brother-in-law, Jeff Farley, grandparents, Jack and Julia Miranda, Chris Olson and Mary Robertson.

He has survived by his wife, Lisa A. Miranda, children, Michael Miranda II (Lisa Mae), Mark Miranda (Nikki), Rebecca Miranda (Matt), grandchildren Maegen Noel (Levi), Matt Miranda (Hailie), Kendra Losa (Jon), Lexi Miranda (Andrew), Juliana Jeffries and Ava Johnson, great-grandchildren Caden, Zayne, Kensey, Keith and Royce, brothers and sisters, John D. Miranda (Patsy), Kathy Hayes (Jerry), Tom Miranda, Joanne Farley, Robert Miranda (Janice), Diana Sutton (Danny), Tim Miranda (Dorice), Shari Titus (Ron), 27 nieces and nephews, and his in-laws Arlon and Irene Mann.

Please join us on January 3, 2026 at 1 PM for a celebration of life at Picture Valley Farms, 55152 Picture Valley Road, Coquille, Oregon. All family and friends are welcome to share good food, great stories and laughter. Mike had a gift for making people laugh and having fun.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Myrtle Point Fire Department, 424 5th St., Myrtle Point, OR 97458 or the Ferndale Fire Department, PO Box 485, Ferndale, CA.

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We Print Obituaries

Submit information via email to classified@northcoastjournal.com, or by mail or in person.

Please submit photos in JPG or PDF format, or original photos can be scanned at our office.

The *North Coast Journal* prints each Thursday, 52 times a year. Deadline for obituary information is at 5 p.m. on the Sunday prior to publication date.

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NORTH COAST JOURNAL OF
POLITICS, PEOPLE AND ART

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McCREA SUBARU



1406 5TH STREET
EUREKA
(707) 442-1741

2025 NISSAN LEAF S

Auto,
110 kW e-motor,
FWD

\$19,995
PLUS T&L



#2008929A

2023 NISSAN SENTRA SV

xTronic CVT,
2.0L 4cyl,
FWD

\$19,995
PLUS T&L



#2008685A

2019 TOYOTA TACOMA SR EXT CAB LONG BED

6spd Auto,
2.7L 4cyl,
4WD

\$21,995
PLUS T&L



#2008782B

2022 NISSAN ALTIMA SR

Auto,
2.5L 4cyl,
FWD

\$23,995
PLUS T&L



#2008738A

2024 NISSAN ROGUE SV

Auto,
1.5L 3cyl,
AWD

\$24,995
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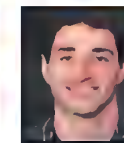
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865 NEW NAVY BASE ROAD, SAMOA
\$1,575,000

Nestled on the Samoa Peninsula, Oyster Beach is a unique ±27-acre coastal retreat on Humboldt Bay. The sustainably built estate includes a main house—currently two units, easily converted back to one—and three charming cabins, all crafted with reclaimed materials. Expansive windows frame views of surrounding eucalyptus trees, while direct beach access invites kayaking, fishing, and peaceful strolls. Ideal for multigenerational living or hosting, the property blends natural beauty, eco-conscious design, and modern comfort. Just minutes from town, Oyster Beach offers a rare opportunity to enjoy both serenity and convenience in a truly special setting.



**2616 VISSER COURT,
MCKINLEYVILLE**
\$525,000

Discover exceptional versatility and income potential on this ±1.07-acre property located in an exclusive gated community. The main residence features 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom,

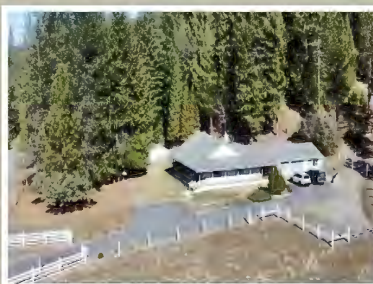
complemented by an outbuilding and a privacy fence for added comfort and functionality. A separate, fully finished 1-bedroom, 1-bath secondary home offers the perfect opportunity for rental income, multigenerational living, or guest accommodations. With ample space for future improvements, this oversized parcel provides both immediate livability and long-term potential in a peaceful, lightly traveled setting.



**3253 GREENWOOD HEIGHTS
DRIVE, KNEELAND**
\$598,000

Perfect spot above the fog but not far from town! So many creative indoor spaces for recreation, home office, hobbies, or

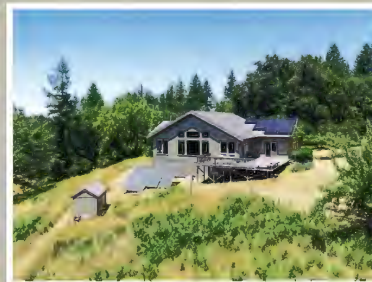
guests. So many beautiful outdoor spaces for gardening, birdwatching, meditation, and play. 3 bedroom, 2 bath country home, with flex use room and mezzanine. Garage, shop, sheds, carport, decks, and even a duck house!



**1171 MAD RIVER
ROAD, MAD RIVER**
\$549,000

Welcome to your Mad River country estate, featuring an immaculate large custom home on 63+ acres of beautiful land, nestled along the Mad River

and just minutes from Ruth Lake. The property includes a separately metered 24x32 shop/garage, a 24x70 permitted Ag building, 8x20 wood/storage shed, deeded water and a permitted well. Fenced and cross fenced, bring your horses and all your equipment!



**8015 KNEELAND
ROAD, KNEELAND**
\$850,000

This stunning ±40-acre off-grid property features southwest-facing meadows, old-growth firs, and serene woodlands. The custom 2,400 sq.ft. 3 bed, 2 bath

home offers vaulted ceilings, fir floors, and a cozy wood-burning fireplace. Enjoy solar power, spring-fed water, a mature orchard, and a fenced garden. Tucked away at the end of a private road, this peaceful retreat blends natural beauty, sustainability, and comfort into a truly one-of-a-kind sanctuary.



**200 REBECCA LANE,
ARCATA**
\$639,000

Enjoy country living close to town with this charming two bedroom, one bath single-story home on over five acres with your own Redwood Forest. The move-

in ready home features an open circular floor plan, fresh paint, updated bathroom, oversized laundry, and more. Raised garden beds, mature fruit trees, and a classic red barn make it ideal for gardening and animal lovers alike. Just minutes from Arcata, Cal Poly Humboldt, and the Mad River!



**16533 COBB ROAD,
DINSMORE**
\$99,000

Discover an exceptional opportunity to own a fully permitted, turnkey cannabis farm. Expertly designed for efficiency and profitability this property is

nestled in a serene setting, and boasts just under 10,000 sq. ft. of outdoor cultivation space across six greenhouses. The property features a newer well, producing 80,000 gallons annually and nine poly tanks totaling 16,000 gallons for irrigation. Also comes with 2 sheds for drying and processing.

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